

City Council of the City of New Castle
Special City Council Meeting
Town Hall, 201 Delaware Street, New Castle
Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.

Call to order: 6:00 pm

Roll Call:

Council President Linda Ratchford
Councilperson John Di Mondì
Councilperson Mike Quaranta
Councilperson Michael M. Platt (6:09pm)
Councilperson Valarie Leary

Also present:

Jeff Bergstrom, Building Official
Janet Carlin, City Treasurer
Jamie Rogers, Police Chief
Daniel Losco, City Solicitor
William Barthel, City Administrator

The PowerPoint presentation provided an overview of the New Castle City Police Department staff, operations, outreach, statistics on crime in the city, the impact of the annexations, traffic violations, the impact on illegal substances, drug houses, the sex offender registry, Megan's Law, the housing and monitoring of sex offenders, homicides, and shootings in the surrounding areas of the city.

New Business

Chief Jamie Rogers and Captain Kevin McCabe gave a PowerPoint presentation on the topics below: they are attached to the meeting minutes.

1. Presentation by New Castle City Police Department
Community Outreach Program:
 - The Police Department's current structure
 - The Police Department's complaint load (Crime Map and Hot spots)
 - Patrol-deployment strategies (Crime Map and Hot Spots)
 - Highlight the criminal activity in surrounding jurisdictions

After the presentation, the City Council asked the Police Chief and the Captain practical questions on the subjects that they had presented on the usage of illegal substances, also criminal activities within the City. The Police Department officials had advised the City Council members to contact 911 in the event of any suspicious activity, and the Police Department advised the City

Council that they have made arrests for criminal behavior and illegal substance abuse.

The Police Department officials informed the City Council that it takes up to a year for them to close a “drug house” through the assistance of the Delaware Attorney General’s Office. Captain McCabe informed Councilperson Platt that he encourages him and others to call 911 when someone makes a quick sale, and to write down their license plate number. Councilperson Di Mondì asked about the theft that had taken place at the Farmer’s Market, traffic accidents and automobile violations. A Police Department official replied to Councilperson Di Mondì and informed him that it takes less than 10 minutes to ticket someone for an automobile accident, and it takes a while to handle theft at the Farmer’s Market. Councilperson Leary had asked the Police Chief about contacting the New Castle County non-emergency number, 1-(302) 571-2800 — would it be registered in the system? Police Chief stated that such a telephone call would be acknowledged and responded to.

Councilperson Quaranta asked the Police Department officials about the following: 1) crime trends over the years in drug related issues; 2) trends in other communities concerning drugs, and 3) whether the City Police have a good relationship with other law enforcement agencies. The Police officials stated that violent crimes have risen, the traffic volume is not breaking the law, and that they work alongside other Police Departments such as the County- and State Police. The coordination between different Police Departments has been impactful in solving crimes and protecting the public within the region.

The **motion to adjourn** was made by Councilperson Leary, seconded by Councilperson Quaranta, and **passed unanimously**. The Council adjourned at 7:04 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian G. Whitaker
City Clerk of New Castle, Delaware